

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 VO-03
INSE-00 IO-13 EUR-12 NEA-10 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /091 W
-----031203Z 052287 /53

R 031002Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2807
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU
DIA WASHDC

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF INTERIOR MINISTER TO U.S.

REF: BANGKOK 7173

1. INTERIOR MINISTER SAMAK SUNTHORAWET LEFT BANGKOK ON JUNE 1 FOR A THREE WEEK TRIP DURING WHICH HE WILL VISIT VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN EUROPE (ISRAEL, FRANCE, WEST GERMANY AND BRITAIN), THE U.S. AND JAPAN. THE TRIP IS BUILT AROUND HIS ATTENDANCE AT THE ILO MEETING IN GENEVA AS HEAD OF THE HTAI DELEGATION. SAMAK IS, HOWEVER, TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THAI STUDENTS ABROAD TO EXPLAIN THE "TRUE SITUATION IN THAILAND." HE DID NOT RPT, NOT ASK THE EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING HIS PROGRAM AND EXPECTS NO RPT. NO OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS. TRIP SHOULD BE REGARDED AS ESSENTIALLY PRIVATE AS FAR AS HIS OFFICIAL POSITION IS CONCERNED.

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2. SAMAK WILL PROBABLY BE IN THE U.S. THE SECOND FULL WEEK OF JUNE. HE HAS INDICATED THAT HE WILL VISIT CHICAGO, NEW YORK, AND LOS ANGELES TO TALK WITH THAI STUDENTS IN THESE CITIES DURING HIS STAY IN THE U.S. HE DID THE SAME DURING HIS LAST VISIT TO THE U.S. (REFTEL). THE REPORTED INTENSITY OF THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT FEELING AMONG THAI STUDENTS ABROAD

AS WELL AS THE ACTIVITIES OF DR. PUAI UNGPHAKON
(FORMER RECTOR OF THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY) APPARENTLY
INFLUENCED HIS DECISION TO MAKE ANOTHER TRIP
TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION IN THAILAND TO STUDENT
AUDIENCES.

3. AS NOTED ABOVE, SAMAK HAS NOT RPT NOT ASKED
FOR ANY ASSISTANCE FROM THE EMBASSY OR THE
DEPARTMENT. HE HAS IN FACT BEEN LATH TO GIVE US
DETAILS OF HIS TRIP. POSSIBLY FOR PERSONAL SECURITY
REASONS (EMBASSY NOTE: THERE HAVE BEEN TWO KNOWN
ATTEMPTS ON SAMAK'S LIFE IN THAILAND WITHIN THE
LAST SIX MONTHS).

4. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATIN
WHICH COMES TO THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION ON THE
REEACTION OF THE STUDENTS TO SAMAK'S VISITS.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO12080
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770198-0478
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770695/aaaadfeq.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 80e74086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BANGKOK 7173
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2295919
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL OF INTERIOR MINISTER TO U.S.
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH, (SAMAK SUNTHORAWET)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/80e74086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009